

PATENT



US005378A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Randolph von Oepen

Serial No.: 10/652,498

Filed: September 2, 2003

For: STENT CATHETER SYSTEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant brings the attached references to the Examiner's attention and requests that they be considered and made of record in this application. Also attached are a completed PTO-1449 form and a copy of the PCT Search Report. If a first Office Action on the merits was mailed before the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 50-1836. A duplicate copy of this Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

This application is a continuation of Serial No. 09/720,873, filed January 2, 2001 and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120. The references cited on the PTO-1449 form were previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent Office in the prior application. Thus, in accordance with MPEP 609, *no copies of the prior art is being submitted herewith.*

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As to EP 0 779 062, DE 195 09 464, FR 2 768,611, WO 96 41589, WO 98 02112, and WO 97 40877, these references are being cited because they were cited in the International Search Report, which includes a statement of relevance.

German Patent Publication No. 198 01 076 C1 discloses a catheter having a flexible tube 11 with and expandable stent 13 at its distal end. English translations of the abstract and claims 1-3 was previously attached to this publication, since the search report indicates that

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these are the relevant portions of this document. The search report also indicates that these sections of this document relate to claims 1-5 of the present application.

German Patent Publication No. 197 13 214 A1 discloses a stent for keeping hollow organs open for long periods of time. The stent is covered with one or more layers. An English translation of the abstract was previously submitted for the Examiner's convenience.

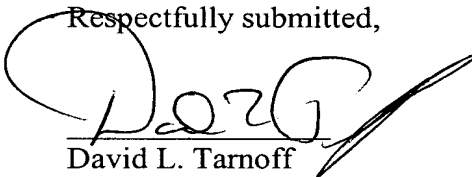
German Patent Publication No. 38 11 676 discloses a balloon dilation catheter. This German publication is based on the U.S. application which matured into U.S. Patent No. 4,798,586. Therefore, U.S. Patent No. 4,798,586 was previously submitted as a translation for this German publication.

German Patent No. 692 24 379 discloses a balloon catheter. This German patent claims priority to the U.S. application that matured into U.S. Patent No. 5,181,911. A copy of U.S. Patent No. 5,181,911 was previously submitted as a translation to this German patent.

* * *

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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